



General Assembly

January Session, 2013

Raised Bill No. 1002

LCO No. 3747



Referred to Committee on EDUCATION

Introduced by:
(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) As used in this section and
2 sections 2 to 8, inclusive, of this act:

3 (1) "Full service community school" means a public school that
4 participates in a coordinated, community-based effort with community
5 partners to provide comprehensive educational, developmental,
6 family, health and wrap-around services during nonschool hours for
7 students, families and community members with the objective of
8 improving academic achievement, building school and community
9 engagement and improving the skills, capacity and well-being of the
10 community in which such school is located.

11 (2) "Local community school consortium" means the partnership
12 established between a local or regional board of education and one or
13 more community partners for the purpose of establishing, operating
14 and sustaining a full service community school.

15 (3) "Community partner" means a provider of one or more of the
16 following eligible services to students or community residents: (A)
17 Primary medical or dental care, (B) mental health treatment and
18 services, (C) academic enrichment activities designed to promote the
19 cognitive development of students and provide opportunities for
20 students to practice and apply academic skills, (D) programs designed
21 to improve student attendance at school, including the reduction of
22 early chronic absenteeism, (E) youth development programs designed
23 to promote student social, emotional, physical and moral development
24 through the arts, athletic activities, physical fitness, youth leadership,
25 community service and service learning opportunities, (F) early
26 childhood education, (G) parental involvement programs designed to
27 facilitate parental involvement in and engagement with their children's
28 education, including, but not limited to, parental activities that involve
29 supporting, monitoring and advocating for their children's education,
30 parent leadership within the school and parenting skills, (H) school-
31 age child care services, including, but not limited to, before and after-
32 school services and full-day programming that operates during school
33 holidays, summers, vacations and weekends, (I) programs that provide
34 assistance to students who have been truant, suspended or expelled
35 and that offer multiple pathways to graduation or earning a high
36 school diploma, (J) youth and adult job training and career counseling
37 services, (K) nutrition education services, (L) adult education, (M)
38 remedial education and enrichment activities, (N) legal services, or (O)
39 any other programs deemed to be required in the community.

40 (4) "Community-based, integrated student services" means
41 interventions, coordinated through a single point of contact, that
42 improve student academic achievement by connecting community
43 resources with academic and social service needs of students.

44 (5) "Community engagement in education" means (A) systematic
45 efforts to involve, engage and collaborate with families, community
46 residents, members of school communities, community partners and
47 other stakeholders in exploring the needs of their students and schools,

48 developing plans to address such needs, and (B) working together to
49 address such needs by (i) developing a welcoming school and school
50 system climate, (ii) mobilizing the community's assets to support
51 student academic achievement and growth, (iii) engaging individuals
52 and stakeholders who have historically not participated in school-
53 community relations, (iv) improving working relationships, and (v)
54 deepening the commitment to student academic success.

55 (6) "Family engagement in education" means a shared responsibility
56 between families and schools for student academic success, in which
57 schools and community-based organizations are committed to
58 reaching out to engage families that encourage families to actively
59 support their children's learning and development, as well as the
60 learning and development of other children, from birth through young
61 adulthood in the home, school and community.

62 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) On or before August 1, 2013, the
63 local or regional board of education for each school district designated
64 as an alliance district, pursuant to section 10-262u of the general
65 statutes, shall identify two elementary schools and one high school
66 located in the school district that will establish full service community
67 schools at such schools to begin operations in the school year
68 commencing July 1, 2014. The board of education shall give priority to
69 those elementary schools with existing family resource centers.

70 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) On or before October 1, 2013,
71 those schools that are to establish full service community schools,
72 pursuant to section 2 of this act, shall establish a local community
73 school governance board. Each local community school governance
74 board shall consist of (1) the principal, or the principal's designee, (2)
75 the members of the school governance council, established pursuant to
76 section 10-223j of the general statutes, for the school, (3) the director of
77 the family resource center at the school, if applicable, and (4) at least
78 six community partners.

79 (b) Each local community school governance board shall appoint a
80 full-time community school coordinator to coordinate and administer
81 the operations of the full service community school. The director of the
82 family resource center at the school may serve as the community
83 school coordinator.

84 Sec. 4. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) On or before January 1, 2014,
85 the community school coordinator for a full service community school,
86 in consultation with the local community school governance board and
87 the local or regional board of education for the school district in which
88 such full service community school is located, shall conduct a school
89 operations audit, as described in subsection (b) of this section, and a
90 community operations audit, as described in subsection (c) of this
91 section, to assess the academic, physical, social, emotional, health,
92 mental health and civic needs of students and their families that may
93 impact student learning and academic achievement.

94 (b) The school operations audit shall determine the extent to which
95 the full service community school (1) has established a strong family
96 and community connection to the school, (2) serves the after-school
97 hours needs of students and the community, (3) is addressing other
98 noncognitive factors that impact student academic achievement, such
99 as students' emotional, artistic, cultural, recreational, mental and
100 physical health needs and the school climate, and (4) is addressing
101 chronic absenteeism. Such school operations audit shall be informed
102 by an inventory of the items described in subparagraphs (A) to (AA),
103 inclusive, of subsection (c) of section 10-223h of the general statutes.

104 (c) The community operations audit shall determine (1) the extent to
105 which the community is civically engaged, (2) the levels of community
106 engagement in education, and (3) the types of community services that
107 could improve community engagement in education and family
108 engagement in education. Such community operations audit shall be
109 informed by an inventory of the following: (A) The local and state
110 unemployment rates, (B) the number of residents eligible and

111 registered under the supplemental nutrition assistance program
112 pursuant to the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008, (C) the number of
113 residents eligible and registered for unemployment compensation, (D)
114 the number of free public libraries located in the community, (E) the
115 availability of safe affordable housing, (F) the number of residents
116 whose primary language is not English and an identification of
117 languages spoken in the community, (G) the number of residents who
118 are eligible and registered for HUSKY Plan, Part A, B, C or D, (H)
119 levels of illiteracy, (I) the accessibility of affordable quality early
120 childhood education, (J) the accessibility of affordable quality child
121 care, (K) career counseling and job training or retraining programs, (L)
122 availability of parenting education resources, (M) access to family
123 support programs, including housing assistance, counseling, financial
124 education, crisis intervention and related services, (N) access to
125 technology, (O) the frequency and quality of noncognitive
126 communications between school officials and community members,
127 and (P) any other relevant information determined by the local
128 community school governance board.

129 (d) The community school coordinator may use or modify an
130 existing audit, needs assessment or assets assessment that is current
131 and whose assessment and inventory is substantially similar to the
132 school operations audit and community operations audit described in
133 subsections (b) and (c) of this section.

134 Sec. 5. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) Following the completion of the
135 school operations audit and the community operations audit, pursuant
136 to section 4 of this act, the local community school governance board,
137 established pursuant to section 3 of this act, shall conduct a community
138 resource assessment of potential resources, services and opportunities
139 available within or near the community that children and youth,
140 families and community members may access and integrate into the
141 full service community school. Such assessment shall include (1) a
142 description of services administered by members of the local
143 community school consortium that are funded through grants

144 provided under P.L. 93-380, entitled "An Act to Extend and Amend the
145 Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 and for Other
146 Purposes", as may from time to time be amended, and (2) a description
147 of the coordination and services provided by specialized instructional
148 support personnel employed by the school or the local or regional
149 board of education participating in the local community school
150 consortium.

151 Sec. 6. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) The local community school
152 governance board for a full service community school, established
153 pursuant to section 3 of this act, shall develop a full service community
154 school plan upon completion of the school operations and community
155 operations audits, conducted pursuant to section 4 of this act, and the
156 community resource assessment, conducted pursuant to section 5 of
157 this act. The full service community school plan shall coordinate,
158 integrate and enhance community-based, integrated student services
159 associated with schools in a comprehensive manner that meets the
160 holistic needs of students, increases community and family
161 engagement in education and addresses the needs identified in the
162 community operations audit. The full service community school plan
163 shall be developed to accommodate and address the specific needs of
164 the community in which the full service community school is located
165 in the following areas: (1) Early childhood development, including, but
166 not limited to, early childhood education, Head Start programs, early
167 reading first programs, child care services, early childhood school
168 transition services, home visiting, parenting education and services for
169 special needs children, (2) academic support services, including, but
170 not limited to, tutoring, extended day programs, student-parent
171 learning programs, diploma acquisition, college preparation, dropout
172 prevention and recovery, personalized learning environments,
173 summer school and summer learning opportunities, (3) health services,
174 including, but not limited to, primary health care, dental care, vision
175 care, hearing care, mental health services, nutrition services, health
176 education and services for students with special needs, (4) youth

177 development, including, but not limited to, mentoring programs,
178 recreation and physical education, service learning opportunities, civic
179 education programs, leadership development programs,
180 entrepreneurship, community service programs, job training, career
181 counseling, mentorship and internship opportunities, career and
182 technical education, college preparation and counseling services and
183 positive behavioral interventions and support, and (5) social services
184 for students and families, including, but not limited to, family support
185 programs, housing assistance, counseling, financial education, crisis
186 intervention, services for students who are truant or who have been
187 suspended or expelled, diploma acquisition, parenting education,
188 adult education programs, family literacy, parent and caregiver
189 education, job training, citizenship preparation, juvenile crime
190 prevention, rehabilitation programs, youth courts, teen courts, peer
191 juries, drug courts and tribal youth programs, (8) specialized
192 instructional support services, (9) adequate service coordination
193 staffing levels, (10) training, technical assistance and professional
194 development for school-based and community-based personnel
195 providing services, (11) funding for service providers, (12) program
196 administration and planning, and (13) any other relevant services.

197 Sec. 7. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) The Department of Education
198 shall, within available appropriations, provide an annual grant to the
199 local or regional board of education for a school district in which full
200 service community schools are located. Such grant shall be used for the
201 operation and administration of each full service community school in
202 the district. No funds received pursuant to this section shall be used to
203 supplant federal, state or local funding to such local or regional boards
204 of education that would have otherwise been available for such
205 schools.

206 Sec. 8. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2013*) (a) Not later than July 1, 2015,
207 and annually thereafter, the local or regional board of education for a
208 school district in which full service community schools are located
209 shall submit a report to the Department of Education, in a form and

210 manner prescribed by the department, on each full service community
211 school. Such report shall (1) include an evaluation on the effectiveness
212 of each full service community school, (2) measure the development
213 and implementation of partnerships among the schools, families,
214 students and community partners, and (3) provide information
215 regarding student learning and academic achievement, graduation
216 rates, school readiness, the number of detentions, suspensions and
217 expulsions, graduate enrollment in institutions of higher education, the
218 degree of communication between schools and families, neighborhood
219 safety, school climate, the degree of parental participation in school
220 activities, student health, student civic participation, attendance rates,
221 the number of students and families receiving services and any other
222 information that is relevant.

223 (b) Not later than January 1, 2016, and annually thereafter, the
224 Commissioner of Education shall submit a report on full service
225 community schools to the joint standing committee of the General
226 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to education, in
227 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.
228 Such report shall include an evaluation of the full service community
229 schools and provide information regarding (1) how state funds were
230 used at the full service community schools to improve the lives of
231 students and families, (2) federal and state barriers to implementation
232 and effective coordination of services at the full service community
233 schools, (3) the extent of coordination between state agencies
234 providing services at the full service community schools, and (4) the
235 efficiency and adequacy of state and local programs and policies with
236 respect to student and family services provided at the full service
237 community schools.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section

Sec. 3	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 4	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 5	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 6	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 7	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 8	<i>July 1, 2013</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To establish full service community schools in alliance districts with the goal of bringing together community partners to provide important student and family services at such schools.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]